



500.40553CX1/E6146-06CI

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Tomoichi KAMO *et al.*  
Serial No. : 10/706,908  
Filed : 14 November 2003  
For : FUEL CELL, FUEL CELL GENERATOR,  
AND EQUIPMENT USING THE SAME  
Group AU : Unassigned (Parent - 1745)  
Examiner : Unassigned (Parent - S.T. Foster)  
Conf. No. : 7659

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
POB 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

26 April 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicant hereby submits the attached information under 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98 for entry and consideration by the Office, and for printing on the first page of any patent issuing hereon, as listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

Applicant first became aware of the attached information on 26 January 2004, and states that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application or known to any individual designated under §1.56 more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The following remarks from Applicant's foreign representative are submitted in support of patentability of Applicant's claims over the cited information.

The article to Narayanan *et al.* relates to a small size fuel cell with a plurality of electrodes formed into a membrane electrolyte assembly (MEA), wherein a proton


passes through an electrolyte membrane and reaches electrodes other than the opposed electrodes. As a result, high voltage cannot be attained. In the present invention, electrolyte membranes are completely separated per pair of electrodes. As a result, a proton does not reach an electro of an adjacent EMA so that higher voltage can be attained.

Chang *et al.* relates to a fuel cell in which fuel is circulated. In the present invention, fuel is not circulated but stored in a support and supplied to a MEA. As a result, a cell can be made compact without using a pump for circulation of fuel.

This Statement is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Action on the merits, and although the statement under §1.97(e)(2) is submitted, no fee or statement is required for entry and consideration of the information listed herein. To whatever other extent is actually necessary, please charge any deficiency properly charged in connection with this paper to ATSK Deposit Account No. 01-2135.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached PTO-1449 to indicate entry and consideration of the attached information.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Form PTO-1449

*Electrochem. Soc. Proceedings*, Vol. 2001-4, pp.254-264

US 2002/0076597 A1



Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 500.40553CX1	SERIAL NO. 10/706,908
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		<b>APPLICANT</b> Tomoichi KAMO <i>et al.</i>	
		<b>FILING DATE</b> 14 November 2003	<b>GROUP</b> 1745

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ex. Initial	Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

	Application Number	Name	Publication Date
AI	2002/0076597 A1	Chang <i>et al.</i>	06/20/2002
AJ			
AK			
AL			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/Abstract	
						Yes	No
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							
AQ							
AR							
AS							
AT							

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

	AU	S.R. Narayanan <i>et al.</i> , "Development of a Miniature Fuel Cell for Portable Applications," <i>Electrochemical Society Proceedings</i> , Vol. 2001-4, pp. 254-264, Spring 2001.
	AV	
	AW	
Examiner		Date Considered